



BETA ALPHA PARTICLES

Exceptional Leaders. Uncommon Opportunities.

FALL 2023

Archon Report

Greetings Brothers, Welcome to Beta Alpha's 75th Founders Day Celebration! My name is Michael Schober BA948 and it is my privilege to introduce myself as the Archon for the 2023-24 academic year. As we celebrate 75 years of brotherhood, we are reminded of the importance of events like this which remind us of the commonality we all share. Being a Pi Kapp, and being a Beta Alpha. As we look forward to this year, the chapter has numerous goals and expectations as we strive to better not only the chapter but ourselves individually as well. While we look forward to the new challenges and benefits the new year brings to us, let us recap some of Beta Alpha's most recent chapter achievements.



At Pi Kapp College for Chapter Officers, we were fortunate to take home a plethora of awards with regard to our Philanthropic Service. This included being named to the Gold Society, a distinction made for chapters that raised over \$150 per brother. Brother Mohammed Uddin was named Most Outstanding Philanthropy Chairman out of over 180 Chapters as well and we were awarded not only the most improved in philanthropy and service award but also the overall award for Outstanding Service and Philanthropy. Furthermore, we also took home the award for Most Outstanding Philanthropy event, for our Halloween Carnival. This was our first time testing an event of this caliber with over a hundred people in attendance. Former Archon Forrest Ahles was also named to Pi Kapp Scholars for his outstanding academic achievement. We look forward to this year's Pi Kapp College which will take place in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania and hope to bring home more awards in January.

Continuing on into the Spring Semester the chapter held high goals in continuing the success of previous Semesters. After a disappointing second-place finish at last year's Greek Week, the chapter realigned and took home numerous awards at last year's annual Highlander Awards. This included Archon Forrest Ahles being named Chapter President of the Year, for his outstanding leadership. Our very own David White took home Chapter Advisor of the Year, being recognized for his contributions towards making Pi Kappa Phi a top chapter on campus. I won the Lisa A. Pierce Student Leader of the Year Award, as well as the chapter was recognized for its outstanding improvement in Social Media following hours of work by Brother Michael Peluso toward improving our social media outreach and aesthetic.

This semester, Beta Alpha has gotten off to a strong start in terms of its philanthropic achievement, raising over 1400\$ for the ability experience as well as other Philanthropic initiatives. This includes once again winning the NJIT Can-construction event, donating the most cans of any Greek Organization by far as well and earning the Outstanding School Spirit Award for our Brother's sculpture celebrating the new president of NJIT. In terms of our statistics among the Greek Life community, Pi Kappa Phi remains the largest chapter on campus, with this Spring rush looking to be one of the largest this campus has seen in recent years. Despite our size, our brothers have continued to hold themselves to the highest academic standards as we continue to boast the highest overall cumulative GPA at 3.24.

While we are proud of all the recent achievements our chapter has had, the Brotherhood continues to remain hungry and understands that success is something that must be tirelessly worked for. We continue to hold high expectations for ourselves moving forward in all aspects of the fraternity. Thank you to all the alumni who continue to assist us in every area possible, and thank you especially to the Board of Trustees, who without their time and commitment, none of the above would ever have been possible. God Bless this Fraternity, and God Bless Beta Alpha.

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The Ability Experience

By Brother Philanthropy Chairman Ronit Kurni BA 973

As a fraternity, we take immense pride in our fundraising initiatives for The Ability Experience. Currently, we've successfully generated over \$4,300 during the 2023 calendar out of the \$6,450 required to attain gold society status like the previous year. Our dedicated efforts over the past year reflect our commitment to this cause, and we are persistently working towards reaching our goal. If you're interested in contributing and helping us achieve this milestone, please reach out to Ronit Kurni BA 973, our Brother Philanthropy Chairman, at (908)-619-6604.

During the Spring semester, we accomplished an impressive fundraising total of over \$3,000. The highlight of our philanthropic events was the successful War of the Roses, skillfully organized by our former philanthropy chairman, Brother Mohammed Udin BA 943. Additionally, we hosted Pi-a-PiKapp that yielded over \$600. A noteworthy long-term investment made by our chapter was the acquisition of a slushie machine. Throughout the semester, we set up tables multiple times, selling slushies and directing all proceeds towards The Ability Experience. Our fundraising endeavors extended further, including selling brownies, Krispy Kreme donuts, cup cakes, and a Valentine's Day bake sale in collaboration with a sorority on campus, Delta Phi Epsilon.

In the ongoing Fall semester, we've successfully raised over \$1,350 through various initiatives. The highlight of our philanthropic endeavors this term was the Pi-a-PiKapp event. Similar to the previous semester, we continued the sale of slushies in the campus center and offered brownies. The standout event this semester has been Pie-A-PiKapp, where family, friends, and classmates contribute funds to The Ability Experience, allowing them to pie a Pi Kappa Phi brother in the face with shaving cream. Our well-known 48-hour bike-a-thon which hasn't been held since last Fall, is yet to take place this semester. Brother Philanthropy Chairman Ronit Kurni BA 973 is planning to organize this event before the semester concludes to help us achieve our gold society goal. In this month of November, our brothers are participating in 'beardsgiving,' a month-long event where they refrain from shaving their beards for the entire month. Throughout November, brothers are actively fundraising for The Ability Experience.



Gear Up Florida - Summer 2023

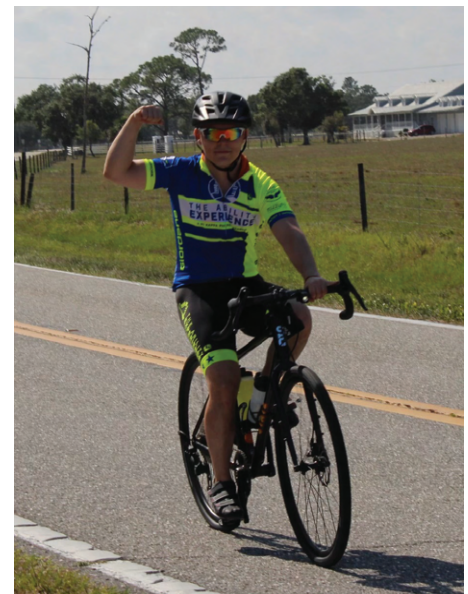
By Brother Will Brevdeh BA956

This summer I along with three other Beta Alpha's decided to take one step further in our dedication to our brotherhood by taking on Gear Up Florida. I am grateful to Brother Pi Alpha's Dave White ba432 and Mitch Butler 941 for convincing me to go take on this Journey and I am also thankful to the brothers, friends and other donuts for all the encouragement and support along the way. My life as well as the lives of the people I met along the way will be forever changed by this trip and I'm so happy to have been able to be a part of fundraising thousands of dollars to help people with disabilities. On the trip I met a man named John. John was born blind and with cerebral palsy and I talked with him for about 2 hours and he opened my eyes which is crazy. The first thing he asked me was where I was from and I said I'm from New Jersey but I live pretty close to New York City and the next question he had was not what I was expecting. The man asked me if we had any cathedrals and he asked me to describe them and I did my best to describe them but words are no substitute for actually seeing their beauty with your own eyes. I later found out he wants to become a priest but he can't due to the fact that he can't read on account of him being blind and he couldn't learn braille due to the cerebral palsy but that doesn't stop him from trying anyway. He tries everyday to read audiobooks with the braille writing on the side and he prays the rosary every day. He taught me that no matter how hard things are, never give up hope. I hope to live the rest of my life like John does chasing my passion regardless of what roadblocks are put in my way and without Gear Up Florida I never would have been able to help John or any of the other hundreds of people we did and for that I am beyond grateful.



By Brother Vice Archon Loni Maqellara BA958

This past summer I had the honor and privilege to participate in Gear Up Florida with one goal in mind: spreading acceptance and understanding for those with all abilities. The men and women that I befriended in my two weeks on the road are genuinely some of the greatest people that I have ever met. The intense joy that they showed knowing that someone else was doing what they couldn't in their honor was life changing to see. Organizations like Miracle League and Special Pops are some of the greatest at making our friends get the proper care, sense of belonging, and most of all, friendship. The men and women that they serve look forward to simply three days a year: Christmas, birthdays, and the men in spandex arriving on their bicycles. It's hard not to get brought to tears just thinking about the appreciation they have for us. Seeing their smiles after biking miles on end was what it was all about. I couldn't have been able to ask for a better support system who helped me with donations, moral support, or the men on my team pushing me to be the best I can be. A special thanks to Brother's David White BA 432, Brandon Sorenson BA 680, and Mitchell Butler BA 941 for pushing me to embark on this journey and helping me every step of the way. The biggest lesson I took away from this journey is to never give up no matter what challenges life throws at you. This was truly the most humbling and inspiring experience of my life and I am forever grateful.



Gear Up Florida - Summer 2024

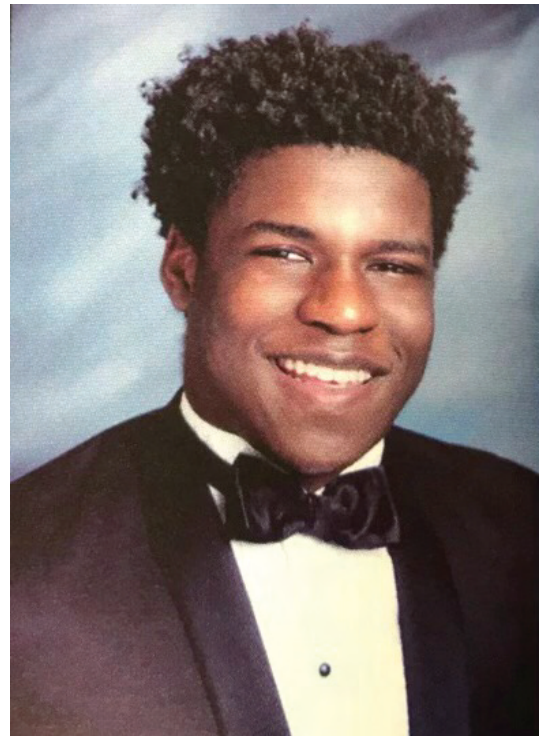
By Brother Suraj Bhardwaj BA982

In my first semester at this school, as a rush, I was introduced to the idea of GUF from an active brother, Mitchell Butler BA 941, who had participated in this event the prior summer. At the time I had thought it was an amazing achievement and wonderful experience however it seemed out of reach for me. In the past year I witnessed two other active brothers, William Brevdeh BA 956 and Drilon Maqellara BA 958 train, fundraise, and participate in the event. Having witnessed all that firsthand, it made the event seem much more doable. After some time of my crossing into the brotherhood, I found myself contemplating signing up. I spoke to Mitch about his experience once more and signed up the following week. What appealed to me about this trip is the opportunity to positively impact the lives of a vulnerable population. Having heard of and seen pictures of the friendship visits I was immediately interested as the looks of joy resonating from the faces of those affected by disabilities was immensely heartwarming and it is a feeling I want to spread. Additionally, the physical challenge of the trip made it all the more appealing as I view the hard work of training and performing to be a way to bond with other pi alphas and separate ourselves out as exceptional leaders. Overall I look forward to the journey that lies ahead of me and appreciate any support I can get along the way!



By Brother Joshua Walla BA979

My family instilled in me as a child the value of giving back to the community. The tenets upon which Pi Kappa Phi was established on and what led me to become a brother here. I recall being captivated by Brother Mitchel Butler BA 941's grasping description of his time at Gear up Florida when he first shared it with me during our list. As he explained the riggers and the significance of this feat, I can still clearly recall being enthralled with the triumphant expression on his face as I left that day. I soon began to inquire about GUF after becoming a brother, and the further I discovered, the more I was motivated to sign because I knew it would have positive effects. After the i was determined to be able to attend GUF in Florida next year after witnessing the impact it had on my brothers, who returned from this year's event. Being able to dedicate your body, mind, and soul to a cause is a unique and humble opportunity. All in all, I am eager for the struggle and perseverance required to do this years GUF and excited to see the impact it will have on my life. Thank you and I apprecitae any donations and encouragemnt for this amazing journey!



Accomplishments

By Brother Historian Matthew Francescutto BA960

Beta Alpha continued its recent success with both national awards from pi Kappa Phi and local awards from NJIT! The chapter continued its hot streak at Pi Kapp College, bringing home multiple awards, all of which were related to volunteering and philanthropy. These awards were Most Improved Service and Philanthropy, Outstanding Service and Philanthropy, Outstanding Philanthropy Chairman, Outstanding Alumni and Volunteer Support, and Outstanding Philanthropy Event. A huge thanks to the philanthropy chairmans the past few years, Brother Alumnus David Schietтино BA922 and Brother Mohammed Uddin BA943. As a chapter we take great pride in any recognition, especially pertaining to our philanthropy and volunteering! We look forward to another successful year of philanthropy under our newest philanthropy chairman, Brother Ronit Kurni BA973.



Along with our philanthropy awards, NJIT's Fraternity and Sorority Life Council held its annual awards ceremony, where we were very proud to have Brother Alumnus David White BA432 accept Chapter Advisor of the year! We thank Dave for all his hard work and dedication towards the success of the Beta Alpha Chapter. The chapter also came away with the Outstanding Public Relations award, as well as a few archons taking home some hardware. Brother Alumnus Forrest Ahles BA931 took home Chapter President of the year, while Brother Michael Schober BA948 received the Lisa. A Pierce Student Leader of the year. Both of these young men are essential pieces to this fraternity's betterment and we are so happy to have that recognized by the school!

Lastly, although certainly not least, multiple current members and alumni attended Supreme Chapter in August where we took home Alumni Event of the Year for our 75th Anniversary this past June! So much hard work went into the planning and execution of the event and what an event it was! Here is to another great year at Beta Alpha for both the undergraduates and alumni!



War of the Roses

By Brother Historian Matthew Francescutto BA960

This year, Beta Alpha continued its annual tradition of War of the Roses! The Event was held from April 10-14 and showed great support from local sororities Delta Phi Epsilon NJIT, Alpha Sigma Tau NJIT, Sigma Psi Kappa NJIT, Delta Phi Epsilon Kean, and Kappa Beta Gamma Caldwell, among others. We are very thankful for their participation and happy that the event went smoothly for all parties and our respective philanthropy organizations! We would also like to thank our philanthropy chairman at the time, Brother Mohammed Uddin BA943, for all the hard work he put into the event, especially considering the amount of money raised and awards won on the back of his dedication!

Throughout the week, sororities participated in "coin wars" which is a coin-based points system which allows sororities to raise more money and points for themselves in hopes to be crowned winners of War of the Roses. Events were held throughout the week with one main goal, to raise as much money as possible for the Ability Experience, such as S'mores Night and Pie-A-PiKapp (a fan favorite). Along the way the brothers enjoyed donations from anyone and everyone on campus, which I'm sure improved everyone's marketing and public speaking skills. The brotherhood also held a pageant on the final day to crown our "Miss Pi-Kapp", congratulations going to Stu Mohan of Delta Phi Epsilon NJIT for the prestigious award!

Overall, the event was another great success and again reflects the chapter's commitment to philanthropy. In total, Beta Alpha raised approximately \$2,000 for the Ability Experience! We look forward to continuing War of the Roses for next year!





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- Warden Armend Sinanovic BA971
- Historian Matthew Francescutto BA960
- Chaplain Alex Amato BA959
- Philanthropy Chairman Ronit Kurni BA973
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